8899437/2024/TAPPAL-REV01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Registration and Stamps – Surprise check conducted on 09.09.2019, on the Joint Sub-registrar Office, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District - Allegation of corruption & criminal misconduct against the staff of S.R.O office, Gajuwaka - Initiation of Disciplinary Proceedings against Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. JSR, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam under Rule 20 of APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991 – Articles of Charges - Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.433

Dated:16.05.2024
Read:-

G.O.Ms.No.188, Revenue (Vig.II) Department, Dated:27.07.2021.

&

ORDER:

In continuation of the orders issued under Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991 in the reference read above, it is considered necessary to hold an enquiry against Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. Joint Sub Registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the said rules.

2. The substance of the imputation of misconduct or misbehavior in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charge (Annexure-I) and the imputation of misconduct or misbehavior in support of each article of charge is enclosed (Annexure-II). A list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the articles of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure-III and IV).

3. Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. Joint Sub Registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam is directed to submit his written statement of defence, within ten days of the receipt of this Order.

4. Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. Joint Sub Registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charge as are not admitted. She should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. Joint Sub Registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam is further informed that if she does not submit his written statement of defence on or before the date specified in para 3 above, further action will be processed based on the material available.

6. Attention of Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. Joint Sub Registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings, it will be presumed that she is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O)

7. The receipt of this order may be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Dr.K.S.JAWAHAR REDDY
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. JSR, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam
(through the Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Visakhapatnam *with a request to serve the G.O, to the individual and furnish the served copy with dated acknowledgement for record).*
The Deputy Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Visakhapatnam.
Copy to:
The Commissioner & Inspector General, Registration & Stamps, Andhra Pradesh, Tadepalli, Guntur District.
Copy to:
The Secretary to Vigilance Commissioner, APVC, Secretariat, Velagapudi.
The Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

8899437/2024/TAPPAL-REV01

ANNEXURE–I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT. PANKAM RAJESWARI, D/O. LATE SAMBASIVA RAO, WORKED AS OFFICE SUB-ORDINATE, O/O. THE JOINT SUB-REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, GAJUWAKA, VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT. (SO.5)

That Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, D/o. Late Sambasiva Rao, 60 Yrs., worked as Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. the Jt. Sub-Registrar's Office, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District (herein after referred as Government Servant) while functioning as such during the period between 06.07.2019 to 09.09.2019 (till date of surprise check) committed grave misconduct in as much as:

ARTCILE-I:

That the Government Servant in abuse of her official position took a share in the bribe amounts collected by the private persons who are engaged by the SRO, Gajuwaka.

ARTICLE-II:

That, the Government Servant failed to maintain documents acknowledgement register properly.

ARTICLE-III:

That, the Government Servant failed to put her initial in attendance register on the day of surprise check i.e. on 09.09.2019.

Thus Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, D/o. Late Sambasiva Rao, 60 Yrs., worked as Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. the Jt. Sub-Registrar's Office, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District by her above mentioned acts exhibited lack of devotion to duty, failed to maintain integrity, behaved in a manner unbecoming of a Government Servant and brought down the prestige of the Government and there by violated/contravened Rules 3(1) & 3(2) of AP Civil Services (Conduct) Rules.

Dr.K.S.JAWAHAR REDDY
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE –II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATION OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT. PANKAM RAJESWARI, D/O. LATE SAMBASIVA RAO, WORKED AS OFFICE SUB-ORDINATE, O/O. THE JOINT SUB-REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, GAJUWAKA, VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT.

Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, D/o. Late Sambasiva Rao is native of Avanigedda, Krishna District. Her date of birth is 25.06.1963. She entered into Government service on 01.12.1995 as Office Sub-Ordinate and allotted to Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam and worked there till 30.09.2007, on that she transferred to O/o. SRO, Bheemunipatnam and worked as such from 01.10.2007 to 09.09.2009, on that she transferred to O/o. R.O., Anakapalli and worked as such from 10.09.2009 to 22.06.2011, on that she transferred to O/o. SRO, Lankelapalem and worked as such from 22.06.2011 to 30.06.2016, on that she transferred to O/o. SRO, Gopalapatnam and worked as such from 30.06.2016 to 05.07.2019, on that she transferred to O/o. SRO, Gajuwaka and worked as such from 06.07.2019 to till 09.09.2019 AN (till the date of surprise check). She is due to retire on attaining the age of superannuation on 30.06.2025. She is here-in-after referred to as Government Servant (G.S.).

CHARGE-I:

That the Government Servant in abuse of her official position took a share in the bribe amounts collected by the private persons who are engaged by the SRO, Gajuwaka.

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

On credible information that the Joint Sub-Registrar, Gajuwaka and the staff of S.R.O. office, Gajuwaka were indulging in corrupt practices by collecting bribe amounts from the general public, who are approaching their office for registration of documents and other official works, through document writers, Assistant document writers and Other private persons, the Inspector of Police, ACB, Visakhapatnam along with mediators and ACB Staff conducted surprise check on the Joint Sub-registrar Office, Gajuwaka from 17.30 hours on 09.09.2019 to 02.45 hours on 10.09.2019.

During surprise check the DSP in the presence of mediators seized the amounts i.e. 1) Rs.14,200/- (the bribe amount given by document writers collected from various parties) from Sri Maddela Malleswarayya @ Malleswara Rao, who was working as Private person in the O/o. Sub-Registrar, Gajuwaka, 2) Rs.10,070/- (the bribe amount given by document writers and Asst. document writers collected from various parties) from Sri Devada Papa Rao, who was working as Private person in the O/o. Sub-Registrar, Gajuwaka and 3) Rs.2,20,020/- [the bribe amounts collected from the various claimants @ 0.5% on document value] from various documents writers and assistant document writers.

During surprise check the DSP secured Sri M. Malleswarayya, Sri D. Papa Rao and examined them and recorded their detailed statements in the presence of mediators. On examination they stated that as per the instructions of Jt. Sub Registrar they share the bribe amount every month to various level officers working in Sub-Registrar office, Gajuwaka including the Government Servant.

Hence, the charge against the Government Servant that in abuse of her official position took a share in the bribe amounts collected by the private persons who are engaged by the SRO, Gajuwaka, is held substantiated.

CHARGE-II:

That, the Government Servant failed to maintain documents acknowledgement register properly.

Contd.,2

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

During the course of surprise check, on the request DSP, ACB, the Government Servant produced registers and other records including Document Acknowledgement Register and Attendance Register of the office staff for the year 2019 of SRO, Gajuwaka maintained in the office.

On perusal of the Document Acknowledgement Register, both copies i.e. claimant copy and office copy are pasted in the register. It reveals that the claimant copy was not given to the claimant. In fact, after registration of the document, the claimant copy must be given to the claimant. Later scanning of documents will be taken up and the same were uploaded in the master data and this process will take one or two days. After that, the claimant will submit his claimant copy to person concerned in the Jr. Sub registrar office and receive his original documents from Jr. SRO office but most of the document writes receive the original documents from SRO office and hand over to the claimants after taking amount of 0.5% on registration value.

Hence, the charge against the Government Servant that failed to maintain documents acknowledgement register property, is held substantiated.

CHARGE-III:

That, the Government Servant failed to put her initial in attendance register on the day of surprise check i.e. on 09.09.2019.

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:

During the course of surprise check, on the request DSP, ACB, SRO produced registers and other records including Attendance Register of the office staff for the year 2019 of SRO, Gajuwaka maintained in the office.

On perusal of Attendance Register, the Government Servant, Smt. G. Vijaya, Jr. Asst., Sri T.Suribabu, Jr. Asst., Sri A. Srinivasa Rao, Sr. Asst., and Sri T. Upendra Rao, SRO who are present and did not sign in the register.

Hence, the charge against the Government Servant that failed to put her initial in attendance register on the day of surprise check i.e. on 09.09.2019, is held substantiated.

Thus, Government Servant Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, D/o. Late Sambasiva Rao, 60 Yrs., worked as Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. the Jt. Sub-Registrar's Office, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District by the above mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct unbecoming of a Government servant and thereby contravened Rules 3(1) & 3(2) of AP Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Thus, Government Servant Smt. Pankam Rajeswari, D/o. Late Sambasiva Rao, 60 Yrs., worked as Office Sub-ordinate, O/o. the Jt. Sub-Registrar's Office, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District is liable to be placed for her defense before the Commissioner of Inquiries (COI).

Dr.K.S.JAWAHAR REDDY
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE –III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BY WHICH THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SMT. PANKAM RAJESWARI, WORKED AS OFFICE SUB-ORDINATE, O/O. THE JOINT SUB-REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, GAJUWAKA, VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

Documentary Evidence:

The following is the documentary evidence available to substantiate the allegation.

Charge-I:

1. Surprise Check proceedings dated 09.09.2019 drafted at the o/o Joint Sub registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District.
2. A made up file relating to expenditure details written by Sri Devada Papa Rao, Private assistant to Sri T.Upendra Rao, Sub-Registrar Grade-I, Gajuwaka seized from F-Rack available in Store room in the office of Joint Sub registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam containing 4 sheets.
3. A made up file relating to account slips written by Sri M. Maheswarayya, Private assistant to Sri T.Upendra Rao, Sub-Registrar Grade-I, Gajuwaka seized from F-Rack available in Store room in the office of Joint Sub registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam containing 24 sheets.
4. Any other documents to be filed at the time of enquiry.

Charge-II:

1. Surprise Check proceedings dated 09.09.2019 drafted at the o/o Joint Sub-Registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District.
2. Document Acknowledgement Register.
3. Any other documents to be filed at the time of enquiry.

Charge-III:

1. Surprise Check proceedings dated 09.09.2019 drafted at the o/o Joint Sub-Registrar, Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam District.
2. Attendance Register for the year 2019.
3. Any other documents to be filed at the time of enquiry.

Dr.K.S.JAWAHAR REDDY
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE –IV

LIST OF WITNESSES BY WHOM THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SMT. PANKAM RAJESWARI, WORKED AS OFFICE SUB-ORDINATE, O/O. THE JOINT SUB-REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, GAJUWAKA, VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

ORAL EVIDENCE:

The following oral evidence is available on record.

Charge-I:

1. Sri Thota Venkata Satyanarayana, S/o Late Ananda Rao, 57 years, Asst. Engineer, GVMC, Zone-III, Main officer, GVMC, VSP.R/o: Flat No. 203, Sri laxmi Towers-3, Sujata Nagar, Pendurthy, Visakhapatnam. (Mediator-I)
2. Sri Mugada Raju S/o Appa Rao, 40 years, Senior Assistant, Main Office, GVMC, VSP, R/o D.No.30-4-7, Krishna Garden, Visakhapatnam. (Mediator-II).
3. Sri Devada Papa Rao, S/o. Pyditalli, 32 years, R/o. D.No 25-1-136/3 Swatantranagar Gajuwaka Visakhapatnam
4. Sri Maddela Malleswarayya @ Malleswara Rao, S/o. Late Gangayya, 54 years, R/o D.No 27-1-96/2 Srinagar back side of court Chinagantyada Gajuwaka Visakhapatnam
5. Sri K. Ranga Raju, Deputy Superintendent of Police, ACB, Srikakulam, I/c Deputy Superintendent of Police, ACB, Visakhapatnam.
6. Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, Inspector of Police, ACB, Visakhapatnam.
7. Sri Y.K. Kishore Kumar, Inspector of Police, ACB, Visakhapatnam.
8. Any other witness to be mentioned at the time of enquiry.

Charge-III:

1. Sri Thota Venkata Satyanarayana, S/o Late Ananda Rao, 57 years, Asst. Engineer, GVMC, Zone-III, Main officer, GVMC, VSP.R/o: Flat No. 203, Sri laxmi Towers-3, Sujata Nagar, Pendurthy, Visakhapatnam. (Mediator-I)
2. Sri Mugada Raju S/o Appa Rao, 40 years, Senior Assistant, Main Office, GVMC, VSP, R/o D.No.30-4-7, Krishna Garden, Visakhapatnam. (Mediator-II).
3. Any other witness to be mentioned at the time of enquiry.

Charge-III:

1. Sri Thota Venkata Satyanarayana, S/o Late Ananda Rao, 57 years, Asst. Engineer, GVMC, Zone-III, Main officer, GVMC, VSP.R/o: Flat No. 203, Sri laxmi Towers-3, Sujata Nagar, Pendurthy, Visakhapatnam. (Mediator-I)
2. Sri Mugada Raju S/o Appa Rao, 40 years, Senior Assistant, Main Office, GVMC, VSP, R/o D.No.30-4-7, Krishna Garden, Visakhapatnam. (Mediator-II).
3. Sri K. Ranga Raju, Deputy Superintendent of Police, ACB, Srikakulam, I/c. Deputy Superintendent of Police, ACB, Visakhapatnam.
4. Sri M.V. Ramana Murthy, Inspector of Police, ACB, Visakhapatnam.
5. Sri Y.K. Kishore Kumar, Inspector of Police, ACB, Visakhapatnam.
6. Any other witness to be mentioned at the time of enquiry.

Dr.K.S.JAWAHAR REDDY
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER